

# Congress and People Alone Can Prevent War

President Coolidge has spoken revealing the attitude of the administration toward Mexico and the Liberal government of Nicaragua. This position is such that unless the American people voice an irresistible mandate for peace, or Congress acts to prevent a rupture, or the Mexican and constitutional Nicaraguan governments surrender objectively to American capitalism and imperialism there will be a break between these countries.

A BREAK UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IS ALMOST SURE TO MEAN EVEN-TUAL WAR.

President Coolidge's statements are such as to bring the blush of shame and arouse the extreme apprehensions of all true Americans and lovers of liberty, justice and democracy. THEY ARE THE STATEMENTS OF AN AGENT OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM AND IMPERIALISM. THEY EXPRESS EXACTLY THE ATTITUDE OF WALL STREET.

We are in Nicaragua, says he, to protect American lives and property and \$3,000,000 invested in the Nicaraguan canal route.

We landed marines and occupied a part of that country held by the Liberals and we disarmed the Liberals because the Liberals attacked the government recognized by us as the constitutional government of Nicaragua.

Our case against Mexico is that Mexico armed the government of Nicaragua not recognized by us.

We are determined to interfere to preserve constitutional government in Central America. We will not tolerate interference by Mexico. "WE WILL TAKE ANY STEPS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE REGIME IN NICARAGUA RECOGNIZED BY US AS CONSTITUTIONAL."

While President Coolidge was preparing those statements American marines were occupying a "neutral" zone 60 miles wide on the eastern coast of Nicaragua for the express purpose of preventing the Liberals from dealing the reactionaries a final blow, which would have abolished their regime. American marines were occupying the government of Nicaragua to prevent the Liberals from doing so.

In this issue of the American Appeal is told the whole ghastly story of the creation of the present "constitutional" regime in Nicaragua by American "interference."

The bold facts reveal a condition of capitalist greed, aggression, intimidation, tyranny, double-dealing and lawless and violent usage that makes any possible Mexican "interference" look cheap and small in comparison.

President Coolidge has spoken again.

He reveals our case against Mexico, and the attitude of the Administration toward Mexico. Says the President:

"The first duty of government is to protect life and property. This is a paramount obligation....

Protection in fact to American lives and property is the sole point on which the American government is tenacious."

To "protect American lives and property" the administration will insist that properties acquired by Americans in Mexico since 1917 shall not come under the operation of the new Mexican laws.

What kind of protection of life and property is this demanded by Coolidge, Kellogg and Wall Street?

They demand protection by the United States army and navy of a foreign ownership of Mexican resources that amounts to a monopoly.

They demand the seizure of American LIVES to protect American DOLLARS in their exploitation of MEXICAN RESOURCES.

The President's high and holy stand for American property and LIVES becomes a piece of insolent hypocrisy in the light of the Mexican situation.

What Wall Street and its official agents in Washington ask is that American LIVES be sacrificed for property in which they have no share or interest.

This latest declaration of the President challenges the American people as much as it challenges the Mexican people.

It is a challenge to the workers, the common people, of the whole world.

IT IS THE VOICE OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM AND IMPERIALISM GORGED WITH ITS WAR LOOT, CLUTCHING THE PURSE STRINGS OF THE WORLD, AND GATHER-

ING ITS ENORMOUS RESOURCES FOR THE FINAL ECONOMIC CONQUEST OF THE PLANET.

Mexico is the first line of defense in its path. Once over that barrier it will dominate Latin America as a base for further conquests.

If the people permit this first step to be taken, America will earn the honest hatred of the whole world. We will turn the world against us. We will place ourselves in the position of the Germany of the Kaiser and we will suffer the same fate.

True American patriotism demands the utmost effort to prevent this break with Mexico. We must act before the war-makers clamp down the lid and prevent all expression of honest opinion.

## Kellogg Knowingly Supported the Unconstitutional Side in Nicaragua

Warned by Labor Men A Year Ago, Secretary Promised Not to Back Diaz Faction

The administration in Washington has known for at least a year that the Diaz faction which it made indecent haste to recognize was not only a minority, illegal, violent faction, but that it had violated recent foreign policy rules laid down by the American administration.

Conscious of such a situation, the administration has resorted to armed intervention in Nicaragua to save this lawless and violent minority at a time the majority of the Nicaraguan people were about to oust it from power.

This fact is contained in letters from a correspondence between William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, and Secretary of State Kellogg almost a year ago.

It was on Feb. 13, 1926, that President Green of the A. F. of L. wrote Kellogg that "Reports have been received by the Pan-American Federation of Labor describing extraordinary and critical conditions that prevail in Nicaragua, and they show that the people of Nicaragua have completely lost their constitutional form of government and that the dictatorship of Gen. Chamorro and his followers is in full force."

Green quoted from a letter received from the Nicaraguan labor movement, telling of the military rule maintained by Chamorro. "In combination with Commanders Adolfo Diaz, Carlos Cuadra Pazos and others." Arrests of prominent liberals.

(Continued on page 3)

### From The Pen Of Debs

(Compiled by Theodore Debs)

#### HAIL TO THE REVOLUTION!

At the dawn of every day my hearty hail goes out to all the workers of the world. They are my comrades, and I covet no higher honor than to share their lot and no greater wealth than to have their respect and love.

And I include them all, on equal terms, regardless of race or creed or sex; and my loving greeting goes out to them all as it follows the sunrise around the world.

For centuries and centuries these workers, these doers and makers of all things, these living and breathing foundation-stones of the social fabric, have been loaded with fetters and bowed to the earth; but at last—at last!—touched by the magic of their common misery and inspired by the genius of solidarity, their latent power is beginning to pulse in their veins, they are learning to stand erect, and as they lift their eyes they behold that a new sun had arisen in their somber skies.

In their long travail their unpolluted hearts kept time, and now they beat in unison as the one great heart of the human race. With the love-light in their eyes and their hands outstretched they greet each other as "Comrades," while in their united heartbeats may be heard the drumbeats of the Proletariat Revolution.

All hail to the sons and daughters of this glorified international host, with whom I proudly march to Victory or Death!

## America Is In Nicaragua As Labor Crusher

### Trade Union International Bares Conditions U. S. Is Backing By Armed Intervention

"Press Reports," bulletin of the International Federation of Trade Unions, with which the trade unions of most of the countries are affiliated, prints a protest from the labor movement of Nicaragua which was sent out prior to American intervention, and which reveals conditions existing in Nicaragua following the overthrow of constitutional government by the lawless element for which the United States intervened to establish. Says this labor report: AMSTERDAM, Holland (I.F.T.U.)

The Pan-American Federation of Labor has received letters from Nicaragua which show that an almost insupportable situation has been created in that country since the overthrow of the constitutional government by the Chamorro family. One of the letters makes the following statement:

"Freedom, and the rights of labor organizations and even the civil rights of citizens have been abolished. The most prominent leaders of the people and of labor have been imprisoned in the military barracks by order of the military chief, and there they have been brutally beaten. We have never seen such savage and inhuman outrages as those perpetrated by soldiers under the order of the usurpers.

All kinds of inquisition procedure have been put in operation and tortures have been inflicted on many citizens and workers. All ordinary work has been stopped, and only soldiers mounted on horseback are permitted in the streets to force the men to work in the construction of fortifications. Chamorro's army has taken the crops of the farmers and their cattle, and all kinds of merchandise from the merchant establishments. The workers are compelled to be soldiers, or do compulsory labor or to pay taxes under force. Those who refuse to pay are beaten to death.

"We want to make known these actions of Chamorro, and we earnestly request you to intervene for the establishment of peace in Nicaragua."

## French Socialists Win Foothold in the Senate

### Our Imperialism Has Turned Latin America Against Us

#### Increase Membership in This Reactionary Stronghold from 6 to 16

Paris.—The Socialists won a great victory in the vote to elect a third of the members of the French senate, increasing their membership in the senate from six to sixteen out of a total of 109 members elected. The left parties on the whole made important gains at the expense of the reactionaries, but the Socialist Party of France made greater proportionate gains and strengthened its position more than any other party.

The victories of the left were particularly marked in the department of the Seine, where the left bloc carried eight seats. The left parties also carried the six seats in the important department of the Rhone.

An outstanding result was the decisive defeat of Millaud, former Socialist, who ran on an extremely reactionary platform. The Socialists took full revenge on this renegade, whose desertion of the cause of Socialism led later to his elevation to the presidency of France by the anti-Socialist elements.

The large Socialist gain was significant because of the extraordinary loss that have been made to exclude working class representatives and radicals from that body. French senators are elected by special electors consisting of officials. The mode of election has almost excluded Socialists from that body in the past. While, prior to the election last held, the Socialists succeeded in electing 12 members to the Chamber of Deputies by popular vote, they had elected only six members of the senate.

The victory follows the recent decision of the Socialist Party to separate itself from an electoral alliance with the left bloc and go it alone on a straight Socialist platform.

## Indentured Child Slaves Are Found In Pennsylvania

### 500,000 Neglected Children in Capitalistic America, Says Secretary of Labor

Pennsylvania children are still being made the victims of the antiquated and iniquitous indenture system under which dependent minors can be bound out to work for a mere existence.

Secretary of Labor James J. Davis, in a speech recently delivered at Reading, Pa., disclosed the fact that the ancient indenture law was not only in force but was actually being used for the enslavement of homeless children.

"Pennsylvania still has on its statute books a law whose spirit and language goes back to the England of Henry VIII," he said.

"Dependent children still may be bound out to render services in return for food, clothing, and lodging.

**Shocking Conditions Prevail**

"In one county of this state workers in the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor found dependent children bound under indentures which ran to 1938 and 1940.

"The records show that in this county under this antiquated law no provision was made for the payment of children at the end of the period of indenture for the work they did. At least this is true of the first 25 children indentured.

"I understand that the law has been changed to read 'Such reasonable allowance as his (the master's) circumstances will permit and the usefulness of the children shall appear to make just and proper'."

"Still later a definite sum of money or clothing, or both, was specified. The sum of money was usually \$10, \$5 or sometimes only \$1. Davis, according to Secretary Davis, Pennsylvania is shockingly neglectful of its dependent children in other ways.

"In the United States at the present time there are probably 500,000 neglected children," he said.

## Nicaraguan Affair Pirates Raid, Say Yanks Down There

### By Laurence Todd

WASHINGTON.—(F.P.)—Public resentment against President Coolidge's seizure of Nicaraguan territory by armed force and the setting up of the militarist leader Diaz for the second time as president in the interest of American bankers, has finally registered itself in Senate speeches.

Sen. Wheeler of Montana, leading the protest against imperialistic violence in Latin America, read to the Senate a number of letters and telegrams he had received, showing that Americans familiar with conditions in Nicaragua believe the present action is no less than a piratical raid.

The Montana senator demanded prompt action by Sen. Borah's committee on foreign relations, to approve his resolution calling for withdrawal of the marines and the naval vessels now blockading and occupying the Nicaraguan coast.

Wheeler read a Hearst editorial that hailed Coolidge and his associates as "Real American Policy," and he said this policy was actually one of browbeating and bullying a little republic which could be overrun at any time by a handful of American troops. The Montana senator asked Hearst and his fellow editors to ask the United States to withdraw its troops from the British or Russian coast if they received reports that American properties there might be endangered by internal strife. He then went on to show that the American holders of illegal concessions in Nicaragua had set up Diaz in order to put a legal face on their plundering operations.

Sen. Heflin of Alabama denounced the administration for starting a war without consent of Congress, and said it was the Senate's duty to stop the American troops from "into dangerous foreign territory to protect the speculations of adventurers who tried to prevent us from voting a bonus to the soldiers of their last war, but who now demand that more of our boys be sent out to die for their investments."

When Sen. Shipstead of Minnesota, Farmer-Labor, member of the committee on foreign relations, said he had been unable to get information as to why the armed expedition was sent, or where it was to take the country to, Sen. Connell and New York Democrat suggested that since Shipstead had been eating breakfast at the White House he ought to inquire there. Shipstead replied that he had gathered no information from the President at these meetings.

When Bingham of Connecticut claimed that the President acted in support of the Monroe Doctrine, Borah and Wheeler replied that the present intervention has nothing even remotely to do with that doctrine, which simply warns foreign powers against seizing American territory.

Heflin asserted that a "smooth propaganda" had been preparing the public mind since last July for an attack on Mexico in defense of Sinclair and the other oil men, when Mexico is seeking to separate church and state as a means of making her republican institutions secure.

Wheeler served notice that he would speak again within a few days on the legal claims of the rival presidents in Nicaragua, to prove that Coolidge and Kellogg have violated the Central American treaty and have recognized a man who has no legal claim to the office.

Rep. Huddleston, Democrat, of Alabama, in the House, warned the nation that war against Mexico was coming unless public sentiment were aroused. He said that if it came, Coolidge, Kellogg, Hearst and McLean of the Washington Post, who has been demanding the overthrow of the Mexican government by American armed intervention, should be put in the front line of the first fighting unit.

### ANNOUNCEMENT!

Dr. Laidler's Feature Department of the Appeal will contain a most timely and vital article by Robert W. Dunn on "Foreign Investments and American Imperialism" for the issue of January 22.

In the issue of January 29, an article will appear by Norman Thomas on "Militarizing America," tied in your bundle orders for these splendidly educational articles.

## Demands Probe of Kellogg on Mexican Bolshevik Scare

WASHINGTON.—Secretary of State Kellogg should not continue in office if it is true, as charged, that he permitted his department to inspire the story carried by the Associated Press to the effect that "A Bolshevik hegemony" threatens in Mexico, Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, told the senate today.

Wheeler demanded that the senate foreign relations committee call Kellogg and representatives of the United Press, International News Service and Associated Press to ascertain if Richard E. Olds, assistant secretary of state, attempted to induce the newspapermen to carry the "hegemony" accusation without crediting it to the state department.

Wheeler pointed out that the "hegemony" accusation was circulated only by the Associated Press and that Kellogg had denied the state department had inspired it, thus, he added, "raising a question of truth as to the charge."

## Student of Mexico Tells Whole Truth Behind the Present Crisis

### Catechism On Mexican Crisis Editor's Note

There is no question of greater immediate importance to the people of America than our relations with Mexico. The AMERICAN APPEAL has printed a number of vital articles on this question. The following article comes directly from Mexico City, and is written by a graduate of American universities—California and Columbia—who probably knows more about the Mexican situation than any other American writer. His observation in Mexico has not been that of weeks but of years. In 1919 he became director of the English Preparatory School in Mexico City and later served as Director of the American High School there. He was an instructor on the personal staff of President Carranza; served as associate editor in 1925 of Mexican Folkways, and has written one of the most brilliant books thus far published on Mexico—"Mexico—An Interpretation."

Every one who wants to know the truth about Mexico, every lover of peace and justice, should be armed with the facts here presented.

—Harry W. Laidler, Special Feature Department.

### By Carleton Beals

#### I. What is the origin of the present Mexican Government headed by President Calles?

The present Administration in Mexico represents the culmination of the revolutionary movement which overthrew Porfirio Diaz in 1911. Diaz was a dictator who had remained in power over thirty years. His rule was featured by the giving away of the wealth of Mexico to the foreigner—chiefly to American and British capitalists. Before he came in American capital was insignificant in Mexico; when he fell, according to Albert Fall, that great authority on property and morality, Americans owned (1912) 23 percent of the mines, 72 percent of the smelters, 53 percent of the oil, and 68 percent of the rubber business. Much of this property was acquired, not through legitimate investment, but outright fraud and graft. The graft was paid to the Cientificos, the ruling clique. Millions of acres of land were given away for a few cents an acre. The villages, which had possessed common lands (ejidos) since before the Spanish conquest, were robbed to provide rubber lands for the Aldrich and Rockefeller interests and other American financial groups, as in Durango and elsewhere. The economic independence of the village was destroyed and hence the economic independence of eighty-five percent of the Mexican people. The free municipality was suppressed; and an armed guard, the Rurales, composed in great part of ex-bandits,

maintained in order, but also massacred whole villages, broke strikes, and rounded up labor for the big factories at the point of the gun. By the end of the Diaz regime, according to George McCutcheon McBride in his "Land Systems of Mexico" (American Geographical Society, 1925), over ninety per cent of the people of Mexico were without property of any sort. Diaz put into more efficient operation than even had the Spaniards the old adage that "Mexico is the mother of foreigners and the step-mother of Mexicans."

The answer to this condition was the Mexican revolution of 1911. He was overthrown by the reactionaries, American capital, the machinations of our Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson, and the scheming of his own family, and was followed by the bloody assassin Victoriano Huerta. The revolution procured headway again under Carranza, who called the constitutional convention of Queretaro, which adopted a new constitution in 1917. The Presidents elected under this new constitution have been Carranza, Obregon, and Calles. Carranza was too preoccupied with pacification to put into effect the new Constitution; Obregon completed pacification, and began the enforcement of the constitution, but was hampered by too many conflicting factions; the real consummation of the 1910-1920 revolution as represented by the 1917 Constitution has been more thoroughly achieved under Calles than under any previous Administration.

(Continued on page 3)

## Seattle Bankers Fail in Plot to Grab Car Lines

### City-Owned System Saved by Loyalty of Street Railway Men

SEATTLE.—Seattle capitalists have refused to honor the municipal street railway's pay checks, in an effort to force its return to the original private owners.

The city has to pay each spring \$1,125,000 to the former private owners. In order not to default the city is compelled at the end of each year to go for a couple of months on a warrant basis. This means that the streetcar system pays wages and other expenses with checks stamped "Not paid for lack of funds," under arrangements by which the local banks cashed the checks and presented them after a few months for redemption with a 6 percent premium. The city has paid up about a third of the purchase price.

A few days before the warrant system was to start the clearing houses notified the city that the banks would not cash the warrants. They hoped to precipitate a strike of the employees and in the resulting chaos bring back the former owners as the saviors of the city's transportation.

The scheme did not work. The streetcar union which grew much under municipal ownership promised not to strike. The city council, encouraged by labor, cashed the first issue of warrants out of the general funds and intends to continue doing so.

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## Nicaraguan Labor Protests Invasion

WASHINGTON.—Salomon de la Selva, secretary Nicaraguan Federation of Labor, who 2 years ago prominently the sending of a commission to this country by the Pan-American Federation of Labor, has issued a statement in Washington denouncing armed intervention by the United States against the liberal and labor movement in Central America.







# NEWS AND VIEWS

## DEBS

The decision of the National Executive Committee to make the Debs monument a broadcasting station was most wise for several reasons. The monument is the financial success of the project. There can be no reasonable doubt but that such a project will attract enough money to make it financially possible within a reasonable short time.

A broadcasting station will not cost more than an adequate building. The building would cost, and a broadcasting station would undoubtedly be the other alternative. In view of the fact that this country is moving toward a monopoly of broadcasting such as will shut out the real and democratic movement entirely from this manner of education, the prospective D. E. B. station can probably be the only possible method by which the workers can obtain a hold on air communication in America.

We cannot think of any other way by which the American Socialist movement could hope to obtain a broadcasting station under present conditions. The desire to erect a real living monument to Debs, the perfectly fitting character of such a monument as this dedicated to the preservation of a fundamental form of expression and education, will without doubt bring the means soon.

If the money is actually raised, it is almost certain, despite present difficulties, that a way will be found to obtain a broadcasting station at some central point in industrial America. Such a movement with the finances raised would carry great weight. It could create an extremely uncomfortable situation for those who would try to block its access to the air. If a license were denied DEBS by the authorities, there would remain a strong likelihood that some existing broadcasting station could be purchased. If even this could not be done, the monument fund would be left to build a Debs House or some other monument and could be turned to that purpose.

The best bet is to pile up that fund for DEBS as soon as the committee starts it, and we will surely find a way to realize the project.

## A Socialist City

A rare tribute is paid to the constructive and liberalizing influence of Socialism in a recent number of The Christian Science Monitor, in describing the phenomenal revival and the rapidly deepening culture of that truly Socialist city, Vienna, Austria.

"The capital of culture on the banks of the beautiful blue Danube," is the characterization of this city in the editorial. The Christian Science Monitor says among other things:

Long since has been dispelling the doubt which tourists had in western countries of an agreeable visit to "red Vienna." True that Vienna is governed by Socialists on whose placards have appeared such sentences as "Make it a red day in red Vienna." But in practice, that is hardly visible at all except in flags and

floral party statements. The city administration is exceedingly well run, and to this fact many tourists who have been there give abundant testimony. The courtesy of the policemen, the cleanliness of the streets, the unusual quiet for such a large metropolis, the profusion of flowers and shade trees along the main Ringstrasse, and the manifest desire of every last Viennese to go out of his or her way to be of service to a stranger are facts to which all who have in late years been to Vienna will bear witness.

Then follows a most enthusiastic description of a charming, well-kept, orderly, enlightened, rapidly developing Socialist city, and this concluding paragraph:

Austria has a population now of only 6,500,000, but it was once a part of an empire of 50,000,000. The capital, however, remains today little changed really in those lasting values which the discriminating tourist seeks. The museums, libraries, theaters, buildings have remained undisturbed. There is possibly the one exception that more is to be seen now than before the war, because certain palaces and art and manuscript collections, once closed to the general public, have now been opened for the benefit of all. And for this, much credit must be given the Socialists for the liberalizing influence which their advent to power in 1918 has brought in Austria.

Let it not be forgotten that Vienna was the worst ruined and victimized of all cities of Central Europe by the world war. It was severed from its tributary country. Its inhabitants were left to starve and to the mercy of foreign exploiters. It was wrought like a farm. Poverty and misery became the worst plague that Vienna has ever known. The rate for a time transcended that of any modern city.

Then the collective, democratic sense of the people, enlightened by the Socialist movement, intervened, and is now saving Vienna in spite of the unfavorable situation imposed upon it by the Allies. Mighty co-operatives covering almost every department of life, great municipal undertakings and great city-owned enterprises fostered by the Socialist government snatched Vienna from ruin and is now making it, as The Christian Science Monitor says, the world's "capital of culture."

And that's the way Socialism would carry us into the better and higher civilization if the plundering and murderous rulers of the world would permit.

## Our New Year Resolution

On this bright sunny mid-winter morning in the midst of the greatest spirit of enthusiasm and activity in the ranks of the Appeal Army since the initial outburst when Debs started the paper, while hundreds of glad and hopeful messages, hundreds of pledges for new activity and hundreds of dollars are flooding the Appeal office, the American Appeal staff, one and

all, individually and collectively, jointly and separately, has made a solemn New Year resolution.

Separately and collectively each and every one of us are hopeless of mending our little ingrained faults of omission and commission during the great year of 1927. BUT WE HAVE FOUND SOMETHING WE CAN ALL DO THAT WILL COMPLETELY CLEAN THE SLATE—WE ARE IN THE BEST POSITION WE COULD POSSIBLY BE IN TO HELP THE GREATEST OF ALL CAUSES—WE ARE GOING TO TRY TO MAKE THE BEST OF THAT POSITION.

High service; supreme usefulness; outweigh everything else; make us forget everything else; clean the dirtiest slate. When one does all his little faults, disagreeable qualities are forgotten—IF HE HAS DONE SOME SUPREME SERVICE. Those whom we count as the great ones of history were probably in many ways the most imperfect and faulty ones. We have forgotten everything but the great service they did. The Appeal staff is ambitious to get into that class.

Therefore, in view of the hundreds of letters that have reached the Appeal in the past few weeks containing pledges from members of the Army and from many who are not members, in which all of them promise to help extend the Appeal circulation to the fullest extent possible in 1927, the Appeal staff feels that it is up to it to respond in kind.

THE APPEAL STAFF THEREFORE MAKES THIS NEW YEAR RESOLUTION AS ITS ONLY NEW YEAR RESOLUTION: DURING 1927 EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US WILL DO HIS OR HER LEVEL BEST TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVE THE APPEAL: TO USE THE RESOURCES OF THE APPEAL IN THE WISEST MANNER POSSIBLE TO CONTINUALLY MAKE IT A BETTER AND BETTER INSTRUMENT IN THEIR HANDS.

With our limited resources, our limited space and our limited staff we have not been able to make the Appeal come nearly up to our ideal. But we have been slowly working toward our ideal, and the present enthusiasm and loyalty and magnificent response of the Army and readers makes us feel sure that the improvement is going to be faster in 1927 than it was in 1926.

Your present spirit and activity is tonic to us. We can do so much more; we can reflect so much better tone and spirit in the paper, when you are backing us up and cheering us along like you are doing now. ARE YOU GOING TO STOP AGAIN IN A WEEK OR TWO AND AGAIN MAKE OUR WORK MUCH HARDER AND SLOWER? DON'T DO IT. WE ARE STRIKING A SPLENDID AND MIGHTY STRIDE NOW. LET'S KEEP IT UP.

## Finn Majority Backs Socialist Administration

By Adolph Salmi

According to the latest dispatches from Helsinki, Finland's new Socialist administration has passed a confidence test in presenting its program to the parliament and has received the support of the majority of the votes.

After the new Socialist premier, Vaino Tanner, had presented his administrative program and the conservative-bourgeois fusion group had presented their interpellation aimed to line up all the bourgeois elements against the Socialist administration, the premier demanded that the House return to business without any further discussion on the matter.

The Socialist premier was sustained by a vote of 116 for to 62 against the Socialist ministry. The Social Democrats, the Swedish bloc and the Communists voted solidly for the administration together with 20 Agrarians and a few progressive radical representatives. The vote against the Socialist administration consisted of the solid conservative-bourgeois fusion and about 25 Agrarians and 7 so-called progressives. The progressive split illustrates the confusion and general lack of principles of "progressive" parties.

The program of the Socialists which won this majority support omits all radical reforms that would fundamentally effect social conditions and would be termed revolutionary. It includes such reforms as the liberal elements are willing now to concede labor. Most important, perhaps, is one proposing complete amnesty to the participants in the civil war on the labor side, assuring safe return of all exiles and the liberation of those still in jail.

## Margaret Bondfield To Speak in Chicago

Margaret Bondfield, member of the British Parliament, will be the speaker at the Chicago Forum in the Erlanger Theatre next Sunday afternoon (January 16th). Miss Bondfield is one of the outstanding leaders of the English labor party and was the only woman member of Ramsay MacDonald's labor government in 1924. She has just been elected to Parliament since the general strike, one of several cases where the present government has been defeated in bye-elections.

Miss Bondfield's subject will be "What Price Labor." The meeting is included in the program of the Chicago Federation of Churches for "Church and Industry Week."

## Norman Thomas Asks Help For Passaic Strike

Norman Thomas, chairman of the Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief, has made an appeal for continued contribution of relief funds for the families of the textile strikers at Passaic, N. J. Mr. Thomas said:

"The strike is not over. One of the largest and several of the smaller mills have not yet settled in. In the Botany Mills, which have settled, various circumstances mean that it may take as long as a month before anything like the normal number of workers will be back on the job. Meanwhile, the very encouraging progress toward settlement has been interpreted as a complete victory and relief has almost entirely stopped coming in."

"Think what it means to thousands of workers and their children in the middle of winter, after an eleven months' strike, to be cut off from relief at this season. Hungry children cannot be fed on hope of next week's or next month's bread."

"Lovers of children, believers in the possibility of orderly progress in a great industry, comrades and sympathizers, can render an enormous service by keeping up a steady flow of relief funds, at least for the next month. Such funds should be sent promptly. They may be directed to the Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief, 799 Broadway, New York."

## Retiring Governor Denies Mooney Plea

One of the last official acts of Governor Richardson of California was to refuse to consider a pardon plea in behalf of Tom Mooney, charged with complicity in a bombing plot, and the victim of a gross miscarriage of justice since 1916.

Gov. Richardson, who retired on the first of the year as chief executive of the state of California, resorted to a rather flimsy pretext to cheat justice and deprive the railroad worker of his freedom. The consideration he justly deserves by evading the responsibility of replying to Mooney's appeal which contains a comprehensive review of the unjust persecution of which he was the innocent victim. The retiring governor who had fully two weeks to review, consider and answer Mooney's appeal, announced that he will neither deny or grant Mooney a pardon because he has insufficient time to thoroughly examine a 343 page document which accompanied Mooney's application two weeks ago.

"I desire to be fair in this matter and will not deny the application," Richardson said. "I have given as much consideration to the Mooney application for pardon by Mooney as I can give in the time available. I will permit. The matters called to my attention by Mooney's representatives do not impress me as affording sufficient cause to justify executive clemency."

It is evident, however, that the governor wanted to delay the decision. If he had been fair, he would have made it possible to delve into the Mooney appeal, regardless of the limited time, to do justice to a man who insists that he has been wrongly accused and persecuted. This delay is clearly a deliberate attempt to keep Mooney in prison until he is dead.

It is clearly evident that the retiring executive did not intend to be fair and therefore pleaded that two weeks, which remained before his retirement, are too short to do justice to the man who had accompanied and to the people he represented.

## PARTY NEWS

(Cont. from page 2)

### New England District

Through the generosity of one of our comrades, an essay contest for Yipel members will be started. Prizes of \$25, \$10, and three \$5.00 prizes are offered to Yipel members in New England, for the best essays, from 1000 to 5000 words in length on some labor or Socialist subject. Essays must be submitted to A. J. Parker, 23 Fowney Street, Fitchburg, Mass., not later than April 1st.

Ether Friedman will tour this district from February 13th to February 28th. All but four of the dates are taken. Branches or Workers' Circles who want a date must write at once to the State Headquarters at 21 Essex St., Boston.

A speakers training class run jointly by the Yipels and the Boston Central Branch has been started in Boston. It meets every Sunday at 5:00 p. m. at 21 Essex Street. Comrade Rubinowitz gave a talk on "Education from a Socialist Point of View," last Sunday. Comrade Furrington will speak on "Calvin Coolidge and Socialism" Sunday January 16th.

On Sunday January 22nd, Margaret Bondfield, member of the British Parliament, will speak at the Old South Forum in Boston at 3:00 p. m. On Sunday January 30th, Arthur Ponsonby, one of Ramsay MacDonald's cabinet members, will speak on anti-war agitation at Symphony Hall, Boston, at 11 a. m. On Sunday January 30th, Morris Hill speaks at the Y. M. H. A. corner Seaver and Humboldt streets, on "The Changing Social Order," at 8 p. m.

When you say the people have no sense you fall into the trap of the masters who wish to destroy democracy.

# APPEAL'S FEATURE DEPARTMENT

Harry W. Laidler, Editor

## Shameful Record of Our Government in Nicaragua

By Dr. Albert H. Putney

(Attorney at Law and Director, School of Political Science, American University. From an address at the Conference on American Concessions Abroad, Raleigh Hotel, Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.)

The conflict between the parties in Nicaragua primarily rests upon the question of United States concessions in that country. In supporting the conservative government the United States is not protecting the legitimate rights of investors of this country, but is assisting such investors in their efforts to retain control of properties which they have already sold and received their money for.

The Liberal Party when it came into power a few years ago attempted to remove the hardships arising from the control by investors of this country of the leading bank and railroad in Nicaragua by the very method of buying out the interests of such investors at a price which gave a good profit. A bargain was fairly entered into on both sides and the money paid.

It is now charged by the representatives of the Constitutional government of Nicaragua that these investors attempted to retain control of the companies which they had sold, and were assisted in such efforts by certain officials in the State Department. Finally it is charged that the Chamorro rebellion was instigated in New York City.

The constant references by the State Department to the Sacaes government in Nicaragua gives a very erroneous view of the situation in that country. The Sacaes government is the government under the Constitution of Nicaragua as clear as that of President Coolidge under the Constitution of the United States.

## Catechism On Mexican Crisis

(Continued from page 1)

### II. Why the Mexican Constitution of 1917?

The 1910 Mexican revolution began without theories. It had no Voltaire and Rousseau, no Marx, no Lenin or Gorka. But on the current of this new tide were a dozen ideals of liberty. In broad terms these were: race freedom or Indianism; popular government; working-class emancipation; Mexico for the Mexicans or national freedom; land distribution; restoration of the village and the municipality; release from Clerical exploitation.

These ideals crystallized out in the 1917 constitution. Towards Indian freedom it provided for the return of the village ejidos and the giving of land to the peasants. It guaranteed the free municipality. It established a family patriarchy which would be unalienable, the limitation of the size of land holdings, and for the conservation of the public domain and water resources.

Towards working-class emancipation it guaranteed the right to organize and to strike—both of which had been illegal under Diaz. It put into the fundamental law of the land the most enlightened labor code ever written anywhere in the world (Article 123), which provided for an eight-hour day, minimum wage, three months' wages for employees discharged without notice, arbitration, workmen's insurance, proper sanitation in factories, medical care, proper schooling for workmen's children, protection for working mothers, etc.

Towards national freedom and the conservation of the national resources, it established national ownership of the subsoil. This had previously existed, though unenforced, with regard to metals; it was now extended to petroleum. A constitutional provision placed the foreigner on an equal

of the United States. In 1921 Dr. Sacaes was elected Vice-President of Nicaragua for the term of four years, in one of the freest and fairest elections ever held in that country, and the resignation of the President raised Dr. Sacaes to that office. No fair minded observer can doubt that he is the choice of the great majority of the inhabitants of Nicaragua; the conservative Party, the party of Chamorro and Diaz, has not won an election in Nicaragua for forty years, except when assisted by United States marines. Honorable Elbio Root, who is one man in the United States whom no one has ever accused of being "red" or even "pink," in a letter written while he was in the United States Senate said that the Liberal Party "constitutes three-fourths of the inhabitants of the country."

It is now charged by the representatives of the Constitutional government of Nicaragua that these investors attempted to retain control of the companies which they had sold, and were assisted in such efforts by certain officials in the State Department. Finally it is charged that the Chamorro rebellion was instigated in New York City. The constant references by the State Department to the Sacaes government in Nicaragua gives a very erroneous view of the situation in that country. The Sacaes government is the government under the Constitution of Nicaragua as clear as that of President Coolidge under the Constitution of the United States.

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## Catechism On Mexican Crisis

(Continued from page 1)

### III. What has the present government done for the Mexican people?

It has attempted to enforce rigorously the enlightened provisions of the constitution. This has brought it into sharp conflict with the Clerical and foreign capital. It has extended education, creating four thousand new rural schools; and numerous new agricultural schools. It has promoted rural credits, co-operation, and farm-extension work. During the last administration has occurred the founding of the National Peasants' League with three hundred thousand dues-paying members in eleven states.

### IV. Why is there an oil conflict?

Because the Government has attempted to enforce the subsoil provisions of the constitution. This conflict began in Carranza's time over taxes. The State Department sent a note to the Mexican Government stating that certain taxes "saved" of confiscation. At that time the United States Government was receiving more in the way of taxes (if the income tax be included) on Mexican oil than was the Mexican Government. The conflict came to a head under the present administration when the new law putting the constitution into effect was passed by the Legislative Power. The United States Government declared this law to be retroactive. It provided, in fact, that in the case of property acquired before 1917 for oil purposes, the companies must take out a fifty years' concession (renewable for a second term of fifty years) for the drilling of oil on their properties. (b) That in the case of properties acquired since 1917 for oil purposes, the holder

shall have preferential rights for exploitation concessions. (c) That in all other cases the subsoil, since it is the property of the nation and not the surface-holder, shall be exploited by concessions to the party most fit and most willing to abide by the Mexican laws.

Furthermore, as most of the oil lands are in the frontier zones (one hundred kilometers from frontiers; fifty kilometers from sea-coast); they also become subject to the law regarding landholding by foreigners in those zones. This law states: (a) That those lands may be held by the present foreign companies during the incorporated life of the company, or the life of the individual, at the termination of which periods, five years are granted to transfer them to Mexican companies (fifty-one percent of the stockhold must be Mexican or to Mexican citizens). This does not prevent foreign oil companies or foreign oil producers from holding all the land, wharves, pipelines, etc., in the restricted zones, which are directly necessary for extracting and refining the petroleum.

Who are attacking Mexico? The large petroleum companies, many of whom acquired their properties in violation of the Mexican law, through murder, chicanery, and graft; many of whom to this day do not hold clear titles, and who have for nearly a decade had a gentlemen's agreement not to make any further acquisitions. These companies are, even today, less regulated than in the United States, and in many cases pay less taxes. Taken in the large, they have recovered in profits all of their original investments. The present law puts no obstacle in the way of others extending the oil if they are sincerely anxious to do so; no less laws more than thirty years; and the companies have a hundred years in which to work; in addition, the Mexican Government has indicated its willingness to grant fair title at the expiration of that period.

## VI. What is the attitude of our State Department?

The State Department declares that Mexico shall not have the right to pass its own laws, hence is not a sovereign government. It desires that Americans and American companies be placed in a more privileged position than Mexicans and Mexican companies. It who proposes to discriminate against Americans as do our laws in California against the Japanese. Other American states also have laws limiting foreign property ownership. The State Department by a direct interpretation of retroactive laws imports into the present situation of injustice previously committed, attempts to prevent the establishment, with regard to petroleum, of a principle of Spanish-Mexican law in existence long before the Conquest, attempts to prevent the safeguarding of Mexico's national integrity, and is actively opposing the present Government's effort to rectify the terrible errors of the Diaz regime and to bring the exploitation of the national resources under legal control for the social and national well-being.

## Epilogue

If the United States Government breaks relations, lifts the embargo on arms, mobilizes troops, or continues to commit unfriendly acts, it can only harass a government which has shown stability, honesty, a spirit of fair-play, and a sincere desire to conserve the national resources and promote the welfare of the people. In the disorder and bloodshed that might result American property would not be safeguarded, social reconstruction would be destroyed, and the will of a struggling neighbor people thwarted in its efforts at liberation.

It is well to remember that Mr. Frank B. Kellogg has been an attorney for Mexican oil companies and that he is responsible for the most flagrant example of Dollar Diplomacy since our invasion of Haiti—the present shameful case in Nicaragua. Public opinion, every patriotic American, should demand that this present policy of aggression and greed should no longer be permitted to jeopardize our good relations with all of Latin America and thus mar the future peace and happiness of the Western Hemisphere.

the national property would be repudiated when constitutional government was restored. (It is significant that New York capitalists obtained 51 per cent of the state-owned bank several weeks ago.) Kellogg replied on Feb. 20,

that "Acting in accordance with its well-known policy, not to extend recognition to new governments in Central America which come into power through unconstitutional or violent means, the United States Government has not recognized and will not recognize the regime headed by Gen. Chamorro. The Department has not been advised of any combination between financial elements in the United States and Gen. Chamorro looking to the negotiations which you describe. However, any American interests entering into contracts or new business transactions with the Chamorro regime must act upon their own responsibility and at their own risk as they could not expect diplomatic support from this Government in case of difficulties."

When he was asked to recognize Chamorro's lieutenant, Diaz, while Chamorro remains at the head of the army, Kellogg was reminded of this correspondence. He could not remember it. But President Pineda of the Guatemala Federation of Labor remembered, and called Green to remind that "Diaz is against labor," and was the directing brain of last year. Pineda urged Green to "again make representations" that the workers of Central America "unanimously reject" Diaz.

## The Women Workers In "Prosperous" America

A full week's work for \$9.80 and a year's work for \$161. Such figures do not come from China or India or Germany or Italy or Soviet Russia, but from the 109 per cent American state of Mississippi. They are pretty close to the average wages for the work of white women in the industries and stores of that southern openshop paradise. The wage for Negro women is considerably lower.

The figures are taken from a study of women in Mississippi industries by the Bureau of the U. S. department of labor. The survey was made at the request of the state and with the cooperation of employers, so the exploitation has not been painted darker than the conditions warrant.

The bureau found that only 3.1 per cent of the women workers in Mississippi had a regular workday as short as 8 hours and that only 11.5 per cent had a regular week of less than 34 hours. 35.8 per cent of the women worked regularly more than 10 hours a day and 26.4 per cent more than 12 hours a week.

The bureau also investigated the annual earnings of women who worked at least 44 weeks. Over 70 per cent of these put in more than 50 weeks during the year. Yet half of them earned less than \$161. The textile industry showed half of the steady women workers earning less than \$300 in the year. For the 10-cent stores the figure was \$131, for men's clothing \$438, laundries \$463 and general mercantile establishments \$445 a year.

The bureau found that half of all these workers earned less than \$4.80 a week and that half of the full-time workers earned less than \$9.80. Half of the Negro women workers earned less than \$5.75.

## Prosperous America Denies Skilled Workers Living Wage

The host of skilled, organized and "highly paid" workers in "prosperous" America again shrinks as the light is turned on a new section—workers in the men's clothing industry.

Workers in the men's clothing industry throughout the country in 1926 earned an average wage of 75c an hour, according to a survey of the industry by the U. S. department of labor. For the average full-time week this means earning of \$33.23. Both averages mark a slight decline from 1925, when the last survey was made. The department attributes this decline to an increase in the percentage of female labor in the industry.

The survey covers centers like Chicago, Rochester, Cincinnati and New York, where the Amalgamated Clothing workers union has established high average wages. It includes Cleveland, Philadelphia, Boston and St. Louis and also the small towns of eastern Pennsylvania, in which some manufacturers have gone in an attempt to evade decent union conditions.

The average hourly wage of men in

the industry was 93.7c compared with 93.1c in 1924. Their average weekly earnings rose from \$41.15 to \$41.51 in the 2-year period. For women workers the hourly averages were 54.4c in 1924 and 54.8c in 1926, while the weekly average rose from \$23.94 to \$24.28.

These figures must be combined with others showing the average annual employment in the industry to obtain a fair picture of the earnings of these workers. The clothing industry is highly seasonal. Its employees are fortunate to secure steady work 40 weeks in the year.

This would bring the average yearly wage in this largely organized, skilled section of workers down to about \$1,340. This is less than most government agencies and capitalistic investigation bodies set as a decent, comfortable and healthy minimum income for an average family. The minimum yearly income needed by a family of 5 was given by Miss I. S. Lindman, food specialist and home economist, in a recent speech before the Farm Bureau Federation, at



# False Red Scare to Injure Mexico Fully Exposed

**Magnificent Record of Democratic, Peaceful Government Revealed by Industrial Democracy League**

A Committee of the League for Industrial Democracy during the week of January 10-12, 1927, issued a letter to Secretary of State Kellogg protesting against the accusation of the State Department that the Mexican government is engaged in Bolshevik activities as an excuse for their action in Nicaragua. The letter recites the constructive work of the Calles administration and the matters of education, banking, budgeting, irrigation, land reform and conservation and tells of the opposition between this administration and the International Communist movement.

To the Honorable Frank Kellogg, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

The Board of Directors of the League for Industrial Democracy has instructed us to send to you our solemn protest against the State Department's repeated insinuations that the Mexican government is engaged in Bolshevik propaganda and that the United States must therefore support the Diaz administration in Nicaragua in order to prevent Mexico from pushing a Bolshevik wedge between this country and the Panama Canal.

As a result of a careful study of the Mexican situation and of personal observation in Mexico, we have become convinced of the utter falsity of the charge of Bolshevism on the part of the Mexican government—a charge which can only be intended to create bitter prejudice against Mexico and to obscure the real issues in the situation.

If the charge of Bolshevism has any meaning whatever, it means that the Government is affiliated with the Communist International or is committed to the Communist point of view. By any test you might apply, the Calles administration is not Bolshevik. Neither President Calles or any group with which he is connected has any affiliation whatsoever with the International Communist movement.

It has extended the educational system, creating some 4000 new rural schools and numerous new agricultural colleges. It has enforced a program of economy in government departments in an attempt to balance the budget and to pay its foreign obligations. It has established a Mexican bank of issue in an endeavor to stabilize the currency of the country, and to reduce the interest charges on loans.

It has attempted to enforce a number of provisions of the labor section of the 1917 constitution, provisions which the American Federation of Labor would, for the most part, heartily approve. Its most radical measure has been its attempt to curtail the subsoil provisions of the 1917 constitution which are in line with the old principles established during the

days of the Spanish regime, and in line with the provisions of the Constitution of 1857 and the Constitution of 1917. These laws are not confiscatory. They state that in the case of properties acquired before 1917 for oil purposes, the companies must take out a fifty years concession renewable for a second fifty years for the drilling of oil on their properties; that in the case of properties acquired since 1917 for oil purposes, the holder shall have preferential rights for exploitation concessions; that in all other cases the subsoil, since it is the property of the nation and not the surface-holder, shall be exploited by concessions to the party most fit and most willing to abide by the Mexican laws.

## The Appeal Replies to Mr. Job's Attack on Socialist Farm Program

Last week's Appeal contains an article by James H. Job, who claims to be a dirt farmer in which exception is taken to an article by John M. Work outlining some practical steps Socialists would take to help the farmer, the Socialist.

The Appeal regards many of Mr. Job's statements as misleading. He states that the public ownership of the railroads, as proposed by Socialists, "presupposes that we farmers are to continue to be blind competitors in both the field of production and the world market."

The Socialist program presupposes nothing of the kind. The Socialist program presupposes the lifting of agriculture through democratic organization out of blind competition in production and the world market as rapidly as possible.

If Mr. Job has been a Socialist for many years until recently, as he claims, he must have changed because he forgot the fundamental thing Socialism seeks to abolish and the fundamental thing it seeks to establish.

Socialism primarily seeks to abolish "blind competition between producers and in the world market." Primarily it seeks to substitute for competition and monopoly democratic organization and co-operation.

A Socialist administration having acquired public possession of the railroads and basic industries would take any steps that are necessary and beneficial to save the farmers from blind competition and to see that they realized the benefits of democratic public ownership.

Mr. Job next says that the public ownership of the trusts would not benefit the farmers because "the farmers would have to pay for farm implements, and in fact, all trust made products would be determined by the wages proletarian labor would receive, as the employees of all industries would be in a position to fix their own wages."

When I think of the present private monopoly system; its terrible extortions; how in particular it gouges the farmers; and the present big profit rent and interest have in hand, I wonder if Mr. Job calls that a low rate of interest. I wonder if he thinks a banking system owned by the people and operated at cost would charge that much interest. As a matter of fact the Federal Farm Banks are not doing much better than the present gouging money system. They contribute to its support and bear part of the cost of it.

The only remedy that Mr. Job offers is a price-fixing law under the present capitalist system which will fix a price on all farm products determined by the cost of production. He loves this plan because he believes that it is practical and immediate.

As far as I am concerned, I would like to see the farmers of the United States get just this kind of legislation they want in this regard. As long as the trusts fatten on such legislation; as long as other classes of owners are gouging to the limit, I would like to see matters evened up, if that is possible. Such legislation will hasten the end of the present system. It will sharpen the issue between the farmer and the industrial and financial owners. I believe the farmers will have to go through this phase before they learn that ARTIFICIAL PRICE-FIXING BY SPECIAL INTERESTS only accentuates the evils of the present system and that DEMOCRATIC CONTROL AND OPERATION AND THE SALE OF ALL COMMODITIES AND SERVICES AT COST ARE THE ONLY THINGS THAT WILL BRING PERMANENT RELIEF AND UNIVERSAL PROSPERITY.

Mr. Job believes he is practical because he is after something immediate, but he is impractical in the most fundamental way. He is impractical because he believes that the farmers who are already reduced to serfdom under the capitalist system will be permitted by those who are in industrial and political control of the farmers to pass legislation that will loosen their hold or reduce their profits they gouge from the farmers. The kind of legislation the farmers want is a system under which the system will be harnessed to the interests, and therefore useless to the farmers.

THE FARMER CANNOT GET LAMER RELIEF THAT WILL BE FUNDAMENTAL AND PERMANENT BENEFICIAL WHILE STILL REMAINING INDUSTRIAL AND POLITICAL UNDERLINGS IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM. THE ONLY PERMANENT REMEDY IS THE BASIC SOCIALIST PROPOSAL: THE TRANSFER OF THE CONTROL OF THE SYSTEM TO THE ACTUAL CULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCERS, WHEN THE FARMERS AND OTHER WORKERS ESTABLISH POLITICAL AND INDUSTRIAL CONTROL OVER THE SYSTEM THEY CAN ACTUALLY ESTABLISH THE CONDITIONS THAT BEST SERVE THEIR INTERESTS AND THEY CANNOT DO THIS UNTIL THEY GAIN SUCH CONTROL.

I was an editor on a daily paper when the Federal Farm Banks were established. I recall that interest charged the farmers after the private bankers at 7 per cent. I don't know what it is now, but I wonder if Mr. Job calls that a low rate of interest. I wonder if he thinks a banking system owned by the people and operated at cost would charge that much interest. As a matter of fact the Federal Farm Banks are not doing much better than the present gouging money system. They contribute to its support and bear part of the cost of it.

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## Jessie Stephen, British Laborite, To Tour Country



Miss Jessie Stephen

Miss Jessie Stephen, who begins a lecture tour of this country for the British Labor movement, is the daughter of the late Sir John Stephen, a prominent British labor leader. She is the Honorary General Secretary of the Domestic and Hotel Workers' Union of Great Britain, a position she has held for many years. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of the British Labor movement.

She has served as cook, maid-of-all-work, tablemaid, and hotel worker. More interesting still she has actually traveled in a common "doss" house where the charges for a bed were only six pence a night and she was in a very comfortable position. She has been a member of the Domestic and Hotel Workers' Union for many years.

She was one time organizer for the National Federation of Women Workers. During one period of eighteen months she managed to force from employers payments amounting in all to close on two million dollars. She was in Bermuda by Borough Council, London six years, and three years on the Board of Guardians which looked after the poor and destitute. She has had the experience of working as a candidate in that division of London which comprises Mayfair and Buckingham Palace, the home of the King and Queen of England, coming out of the contest defeated but with a large vote.

On two occasions she has contested the Parliamentary division of South Portsmouth and is now the prospective candidate for the third time in the hope of pulling off a win at the next time of asking.

She speaks with authority upon which she has been a member of the more interesting are "Nine days that shook Britain," "Labor's Bid for Power in Britain," and "The Epic Struggle of the British Miners." These do not by any means exhaust her subjects. She comes in the East, and she is highly recommended by her own people. It is therefore hoped that secretaries will be well prepared for their trouble in organizing meetings.

## Soviet Russia Made Deal to Arm Labor-Crushing German Junkers

**Editor's Note**

The American Appeal has tried as much as possible to keep out of the controversy between Communists and Socialists, hoping for the gradual return of Communism to sanity and democracy and the final unity of all world forces making for Socialism. But when it became apparent that the hatred and fanaticism of the Communists carry them so far that they enter into secret deals to arm militarists and black reactionaries during a time of intense struggle between the ruling and the working classes, more fanaticism and inhumanity becomes black treachery and treason, and cries to heaven for disclosure.

About a month ago when the reactionary German cabinet was forced out by the exposure of army scandals by the Social Democrats, the same facts were exposed. On the floor of the Reichstag by Social Democratic leaders. This story was from the Manchester Guardian is also vouched for by the leading German Socialist papers.

It is worthy of note that the Soviet plot to arm the German militarists began in 1921 and continued up until recently. It covered a period when even German Communists were fighting by armed force the reactionary elements and when the Social Democrats were fighting intensely to preserve the German republic and democratic institutions against the Junkers as a basis for an advance to Socialism. Soviet Russia, moreover, was plotting to arm the German militarists when Fascism was on the rise in Europe and throughout Germany. Had the plot completely succeeded, Communist arms would have been used to lay low the workers of Germany and force them into a slavery as horrible as that under Mussolini in Italy. Enough said.

LONDON.—Continuing its disclosure of secret military deals between German Militarists in the war department of the German republic and the Moscow government, the Manchester Guardian reports that in December, 1921, two agents of the Junkers' airplane firm and two agents of the German war department submitted to the Moscow government a contract for the creation of German war industry on Russian soil, to be financed by the German war department with an initial capital of 21,000,000 gold marks.

The German war department used pressure on the Junkers firm to bind, on the ground that it was the patriotic duty of the business to help the war department. The four German agents had false passports for their entry into Russia.

The Russian Communist government showed great eagerness to make the deal, relations between Poland and Russia being strained at that time. In order to cover the transaction, false labels were used by the German agents. They referred to the German war department by letters S. G. (Sonder Gruppe, special group). The deal naming Dessau, the home of the Junkers firm, they named Leipzig. Battle planes were called "cases."

suddenly learned that the German war department had ordered 100 Fokker planes from a firm in Holland. The firm demanded a down payment of 70,000,000 gold marks available for these purposes.

On May 5, 1922, a new contract was signed by the German war department, the Junkers firm and the Russian Soviet government. The production of battleplanes by the Russian Junkers firm plant was continued, although the firm insisted that it did not pay well enough. Under the old contract, the firm had received 4,000,000 gold marks. Under the new contract, it received 8,000,000.

The firm was advised to raise 12,000,000 more by a loan, and the German war department assisted with the loan. The firm finally concluded to quit and offered to submit its claims for damages to a board of experts.

Gen. Von Seeck refused on November 25, 1924, to accept this proposal, declaring that it was contrary to military and political interests of the state. The general denied that the firm had any claim to damages. The Junkers firm could not appeal to the courts without giving the whole affair away, and had to pocket its losses, the Guardian concludes.

As the German War Department refused to come through with any financial assistance for the liquidation of the Russian enterprise, the Junkers firm had to lay off its employees in Moscow. Aside from this loss, the firm had no lost good markets for civil airplanes, which had meanwhile been captured by its competitors.

In fact, the failure of the Russian enterprise was the main cause of the firm's bankruptcy, which the time created such a sensation and seemed inexplicable.

The final benefits of this enterprise went to the Moscow government. It got a fine factory and equipment for the manufacture of battleplanes for a song, also a great staff of technical experts and some finished planes that the German War Department did not get.

Expose Communist Role

The Socialist Leipziger Volkszeitung, commenting upon these revelations, writes: "Now we understand why the Soviet leaders were so sorry that Gen. Von Seeck had to resign."

"While the recent Communist Labor Congress again glorified Russia as the land of the Worker's Government, we know now that the Communist Party in Germany was a tool of the late czar, the Kaiser, and Stalin for concealing the intimate relations of the Swastika officers of Imperial Germany in the War Department with the red Imperialism of the Soviet leaders."

"Vorwärts is quite right when it declares that the shells which were fired against the German workers in the Ruhr and other places had been manufactured in the Kuban district under the supervision of Cossacks and the mightiest armament works of the late czar, the Kaiser, and Stalin for concealing the intimate relations of the Swastika officers of Imperial Germany in the War Department with the red Imperialism of the Soviet leaders."

able to buy back only about one-third of the value you produce by your toil. This means, then, that there exists a great surplusage of food, clothing, and other things, you own, by natural right, which would be distributed in other quarters of the world. This is the system which forces the great powers to compete for markets. This competition arouses international jealousies, among the branches of the master class; the quarrels become acute, and each branch brings its great pressure to bear upon the governmental officials of its land, to demand certain concessions, at which point ambassadors are usually given their passport, and declaration of war ensues. AND ALL THIS, IN ORDER TO SECURE MARKETS, IN WHICH TO DISPOSE OF ALL THOSE GOOD THINGS PRODUCED BY YOU AND YOUR CLASS, BUT WHICH YOU WERE UNABLE TO BUY!!!

What if we had a world-wide system under which all workers would get the full social value of their toil? Under such a plan as that, all change of commodities, by nations, would be voluntary, and of a strictly friendly nature, and not at all of a war-like necessity. Under such a plan as that, all workers would live in their own homes, and not be subject to the landlord class, and not only that, but all other advantages and pleasures would be theirs. AND WAR, BRUTAL WAR, WOULD BE NO MORE.

## Labor Rewarded for Backing Old Parties

WASHINGTON—Reports to the legislative board of the American Federation of Labor indicate that no labor measures will get through congress the present session unless great pressure is exerted.

## Own States Have Laws We Would Go to War Against in Mexico

**By Americano**

Except for the fact that every government is to consider natural, international and human rights, and sovereign state has the right to legislate in its own way. This right has never been denied by any government and when today Washington is using its influence even to the point of permitting the public to believe the United States will sever diplomatic relations with the Mexican government and use force if need be, it can rightly be regarded as interfering in foreign legislative matters.

And when a government speaks in strong terms, it naturally believes that its own legislation must be in accord with its requests.

On the contrary, the United States, which is so alert in the tutelage of the rights of its citizens abroad, goes much further than Mexico in its own internal legislation.

The new Mexican law says that property rights acquired prior to the Constitution are not affected as far as the person acquiring them is concerned. The owner shall have the right to hold until his death his title acquired in good faith. His heirs, however, must comply with the provisions stated by the law, meaning that they must either take out a permit and agree to consider themselves Mexican nationals as far as any legal rights connected with their properties are concerned and look for redress only to the Mexican courts, or, not acquiescing, they must dispose of their inherited properties within ten years.

The charge of confiscation against the Mexican government is most interesting. The owner of a prior acquired right is in his own interest obliged to make a declaration proving his ownership before the Foreign Office and thus securing that his property rights be respected. If this declaration is not made, the acquisition will be regarded as made after the promulgation of the law, and the claimant's right will be judged according to the dictates of the new law. We can scarcely expect a government to be more solicitous of a person's property rights than the owner himself.

However, it is impossible to speak about confiscation if the original acquisition was contrary to the law of the State. Property so acquired can never be and is never considered a legal acquisition. A right resulting from an illegal acquisition does not exist, the legislation of the whole

world bearing out this statement. "Nullus in nullum prodest." (Nothing can nothing produce) comes down to us from early Roman law, and has never been denied by any nation of any time. Rights acquired against the law are considered as null and void as even Article 8 of the law in question so states.

Thus we see that the charges against Mexico are unjustified. The prior acquired right is not injured, and, according to the law, the heir has the right to dispose of his property within ten years if he does not care to comply with the conditions of the new law.

## U. S. Prosperity Extremely Limited

Less than 1 percent of American families have sufficient property to live on the work of others. The inheritance tax report of the U. S. commissioner of internal revenue for 1925 shows that less than 1 percent of the adults leave estates which would afford an average of \$2500 a year if invested in 5 percent bonds. The report shows that 12,162 persons who died in 1925 left gross estates worth as much as \$50,000. These estates ranged up to more than \$10,000,000. These wealthy individuals left a combined total of \$2,841,007,322 to their heirs, 5 percent of whose estates would afford an average in-

come of \$10,950 a year, equivalent to 16 times the annual wages of a mechanic in railroad shops.

The inheritance tax law allows a deduction of \$50,000 from each estate before the tax is applied, also certain other deductions, including insurance exemption, charitable bequests, funeral and administrative expenses, 10,642 estates were liable to the tax, and only 4954 were taxed on a net value of as much as \$50,000.

Of these, 244 estates had a net value of more than \$1,000,000. While they represented only 1.7 per cent of the total number, they represented 36 per cent of the wealth.

In the fall of 1925 the Junkers firm